

# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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## LOW-BUDGET LIFE

### Politicians 'do math' on poverty

Community leaders  
to share diet stories

BY CHRIS TRABER  
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York Region community leaders will walk in the shoes of our poor for five days this week in the hope they'll talk up support for a provincial healthy food supplement, Poverty Action for Change Coalition chairperson Tom Pearson said.

Interfaith and community leaders will be joined by families in the Do The Math Challenge, part of the provincewide Put Food in The Budget campaign launching Monday.

The goal is to have participants experience first-hand how difficult it is to stretch the \$585 maximum a single person on social assistance receives monthly.

Participants will pick up a food hamper, a typical food bank ration, a \$10 food voucher and an additional four food pantry items.

They will experience a low-budget diet for five days and will share their stories at Fairy Lake Park in Newmarket as part of International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, Oct. 17.

The \$100-a-month healthy food supplement would make a

See MPP page 14.

Former sprinter, 97, competed in 1934 Commonwealth Games



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Peggy Hooper of Stouffville finished fifth in the 100-yard dash at the 1934 Commonwealth Games in England. She is enjoying watching the Games on TV this week.

### Eleven seconds of a life well lived

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
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**P**eggy Hooper has one motto she lives her life by: if you can't do it well, then don't do it at all.

Whether it be playing cards – Mrs. Hooper is a master bridge player; ticking the ivories – she's a graduate of the Royal Conservatory of Music; or running the 100-yard dash, Mrs. Hooper always gives it her best.

In 1934, Mrs. Hooper's best – 11 seconds flat for the 100-yard dash – earned her a spot on the Canadian team that competed in the second-ever Commonwealth Games, which were held in London, England.

"I was always fast at everything. ... That would equal the Canadian record in those days. It certainly wouldn't stand up today," the tiny 97-year-old said.

Mrs. Hooper, who was 21 at the time, came away from the Games with a finishing time that put her in about fifth place.

"I didn't win a medal, but I was there, that was the main thing," she said. "It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, but at that time you don't realize it."

To this day, Mrs. Hooper, a Parkview Home resident, remains a sports fan.

"Any sport except wrestling, boxing and stuff like that I'll watch," she said.

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